

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FAVORED MARISSA'S LADY RUNS DOWN LONGSHOT B G WARRIOR TO WIN \$125,000 HOLIDAY INAUGURAL

FLORENCE, Ky. (Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023) – Boone Family Trust and Tillema Family Trust's homebred **Marissa's Lady** ran down pacesetter **B G Warrior** in the final strides to win Saturday's 37th running of the \$125,000 Holiday Inaugural Stakes at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming.

The Holiday Inaugural was Marissa's Lady's fourth-lifetime victory at Turfway Park. The accomplished 4-year-old daughter of Violence was ridden by **Rafael Bejarano** for trainer **Bill Morey**.

In the opening stages of the six-furlong Holiday Inaugural, B G Warrior and jockey **Joe Ramos** were intent on making the lead. The duo was briefly joined on the front end by fellow longshot **Thunders Rocknroll** through a swift opening quarter-mile in :21.95. Marissa's Lady sat third down the backstretch, just to the outside of the dueling leaders. Shortly after the first quarter-mile, Thunders Rocknroll began to retreat while B G Warrior continued her torrid pace with a :43.95 half-mile time. As the field entered the stretch, B G Warrior increased her lead by two lengths over Marissa's Lady but she began to shorten her stride. In the final jump, Marissa's Lady was finally able to collar B G Warrior for a neck victory in a final time of 1:09.42.

Here is the complete order of finish for the Holiday Inaugural (with \$2 mutuel payouts):

1. Marissa's Lady (\$5.46, \$3.38, \$2.96)
2. B G Warrior (X, \$13.58, \$9.74)
3. **Bling** (X, X, \$6.44)
4. **Spun Glass**
5. **Awesome Treat**
6. **Baby No Worries**
7. **Secret Money**
8. **Artie's Princess**
9. **Quaria Comet**
10. **Jill Jitterbug**
11. Thunders Rocknroll
12. **Train to Artemus**

In collaboration with **Claiborne Farm**, the top 3 finishers of the Holiday Inaugural were awarded \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$2,500 in credits to use for a future stallion pairing at the farm through the 2025 breeding season.

The Holiday Inaugural boosted Marissa's Lady's overall earnings to \$649,600. Her career record now stands at an impressive 14-8-2-1.

Racing will resume Wednesday at Turfway Park with a 5:55 p.m. first post. For more information about racing and gaming from Turfway Park, visit www.turfway.com.

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